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TAGS: PFOR, USINJC, IN, US
SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENT ON THE CHAVAN VISIT

BEGIN SUMMARY: ALL NEW DELHI ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS CARRIED EDITORIAL COMMENT ON INDO-U.S. RELATIONSM MOST OF THE COMMENT WAS FAVORABLE. SPECTRUM OF WIDE-RANGING OPINION VARIED FROM COMPLETE EUPHORIA TO CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM AND DISAPPROVAL, FROM SCEPTICISM TO A PLEAS FOR IMPROVING MUTUAL TIES. MEDIA CONTINUED TO GIVE FRONT-PAGE TREATMENT TO THE WORKING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION, HIGHLIGHTING THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE AND CHAVAN'S STATEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. HINDUSTAN TIMES: CHARACTERIZED THE WASHINGTON TALKS AS"CONSTRUCTIVE," MARKING THE "BEGINNING OF A HEARTENING NEW PHASE" AND "A NEW SPIRIT OF BONHOMIE." STRESSING THAT
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"EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GENIAL RELA-

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TIONS ARE THE CONCRETE RESULTS ACHIEVED," IT URGED BOTH
COUNTRIES "MUUT NOW ENSURE THAT UNTHINKING PIN-PRICKS ARE
NOT ALLOWED TO PREVENT BUILDING UPON THE NEW FOUNDATION OF
TRUST AND ACCOMMODATION."

2. TIMES OF INDIA: WELCOMED GOI'S "NEW ... AND HARD-HEADED
REALISM," AND HOPED THAT BOTH THE COUNTRIES WILL "MAINTAIN
A MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE AND AVOID FRUITLESS RECRIMINATIONS."
IT ADDED THAT "WHILE THE AGREEMENTS ARE WELCOME, IT IS
NECESSARY TO TAKE A CAUTIOUS VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITIES."
REASON: "IT WILL BE UNREALISTIC TO HAIL THESE AS A TURNING
POINT IN INDO-U.S. RELATIONS."

3. STATESMAN: PLEAFED TO FORGET AMERICAN LEADERS' "TACTLESS
REFERENCE," "INTEMPERATE REMARKS," AND "GESTURES OF DISAPPROVAL"
TO INDIAN CONDITIONS AND "LOOK BEYOND TO AREAS OF COMMON
POLITICAL INTEREST AND LIKELY COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES." IT
UNDERSCORED THAT "STABLE" RELATIONSHIP IS FOUNDED "ON ECONOMIC
COOPERATION TEMPERED WITH A HEALTHY RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S
POINT OF VIEW," AND CONCLUDED: "FLUCTUATIONS IN CORDIALITY
ARE MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO MINOR IRRITANTS WHICH SHOULD BE
IGNORED BY BOTH NEW DELHI AND WASHINGTON IF MR. CHAVAN'S

INITIATIVE IS EXPECTED TO YIELD LONG-TERM DIVIDENDS."

4. INDIAN EXPRESS: EMPHASIZED THAT THE "SIGNIFICANCE" OF
THE WASHINGTON TALKS LIES IN "THE STEPS AGREED UPON TO
FACILITATE U.S. PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN INDIA AND TO PROMOTE
INDO-U.S. BUSINESS COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION." IT,
HOWEVER, CAUTIONED THAT THE "NEW SURGE" WILL NOT AMOUNT
TO A "MAD RUSH" OF AMERICAN CAPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY BECAUSE
"FOREIGN PRIVATE CAPITAL IS TIGHT-FIUTED AND WILL NOT GO BY
ANY OTHER CRITERIA EXCEPT PROFITABILITY."

5. FINANCIAL EXPRESS: VIEWED THE CHAVAN VISIT AS "EMINENTLY
SUCCESSFUL," AND FELT "THE WAY IS NOW CLEAR" FOR PRESIDENT
FORD'S VISIT TO INDIA. IT STRESSED THAT THE ROLE OF BOTH
INDIA AND THE U.S. "IN THE QUAST OF GLOBAL SOLUTIONS" CAN
BE A "POWERFUL FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF
WIDELY ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISES."
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6. ECONOMIC TIMES: HIGHLIGHTED TWO POINTS: (A) THE IMPROVE-
MENT OF "ATMOSPHERICS ON THE POTOMAC", AND (B) THE SCOPE
FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS "LIES PRIMARILY IN NON-POLITICAL
AREAS ... IN SEVERAL MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS SECTORS." BUT
"ALL SUCH COOPERATION WILL BE FEASIBLE ONLY IN THE OVERALL
FRAMEWORK OF UNDERSTANDING AND MUTUALITY OF BENEFITS."

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7. NATIONAL HERALD: PRAISED CHAVAN FOR HIS "RARE TACT AND
PATIENCE IN RESCUING INDO-U.S. RELATIONS FROM DISASTER,"
AND PRESIDENT FORD'S COMMENT THAT HE MEANT "NO OFFENSE"
TO INDIA IN HIS RECENT STATEMENT. IT THEN REMARKED THAT DR.
KISSINGER "DOES NOT COME OUT SO WELL FROM THE SORRY CHAPTER
OF INDO-U.S. TIES." IT HELD THAT THE SECRETARY TBELIEVES
IN A CONFRONTATION AT THE SLIGHTEST PROVOCATION. OTHERWISE,
MR. MOYNIHAN WOULD NOT BE GOING ABOUT THE U.N. AND OTHER
FORUMS BEHAVING LIKE A BULL IN A CHINA SHOP." IN FURTHER
COMMENT, IT OPINED THAT "AS THE TWO NATIONS ENTER ON THE
NEW ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP ... THOSE ANXIOUS TO SEE THEM DRAW
NEARER WILL KEEP THEIR FINGERS CROSSED." IT CONCLUDED BY
ASSERTING THAT AMERICA "NEEDS TO LIVE DOWN VIETNAM AND NOT TO
SEE THE PAKISTANI CONNECTION AS TRANSCENDING THE OVERALL
SOUTH ASIAN CONTEXT."

8. PATRIOT:HE
DING ITS HOLIDAY ON CRITICISM OF THE U.S.
ROLE IN INDIA WAS CRITICAL OF BOTH WASHINGTON AND GOI. IT
WARNED THAT "THE GREATEST OVERT ACHIEVEMENT" OF THE JOINT
COMMISSION WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL.
COMMENTING ON "MORE THAN TWENTY PROJECTS" APPROVED BY BOTH THE
GOVERNMENTS, IT ASKED: "WHAT ARE THESE PROJECTS? AND APART
FROM TRYING TO RELEASE POISONOUS MOSQUITOES ANJ OTHER SUCH
TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS IN THE INDIAN ENVIRONMENT, IN
WHAT FIELDS HAVE THERE BEEN INDO-AMERICAN TECHNOLOGICAL
'COOPERATION.'" IT SARCASTICALLY COMMENTED THAT PRESIDENT
FORD'S RECENT REMARKS "ARE GREAT VICTORIES OF WHICH ANY
CERTIFICATE-HUNTING INDIAN DELEGATION CAN BE IMMENSELY PROUD,"
ADDING: "WE SHALL NOW WAIT ANXIOUSLY FOR THE NEXT RUSH OF
CIA AGENTS MADE UP TO LOOK LIKE EDUCATIONISTS, SCIENTISTS ETCMZ

9. NEW COVERAGE OF JOINT COMMISSION: NEWSPAPERS PROMINENTLY
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PLAYED UP THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE, HIGHLIGHTING UPSWING IN
INDO-U.S. RELATIONS ("INDO-U.S. ACCORD ON MANY AREAS OF
COOPERATION" WAS A TYPICAL HEADLINE IN THE TIMES OF INDIA)
AND CHAVAN'S STATEMENT SUMMING UP HIS TALKS, "THEY (U.S.)
NEED US AND WE NEED THEM."

10. COMMENT: MEDIA HAS COVERED THE CHAVAN DISCUSSIONS AND
THE JOINT COMMISSION OUTCOME AS A MAJOR EVENT, GIVING IT
WIDESPREAD NEWS AND EDITORAL COVERAGE.
SCHNEIDER UNQTE KISSINGER

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